HM～
KINDA FEELS LIKE THIS IS MY FIRST TIME COMING TO SCHOOL IN A WHILE～
MAYBE CUZ THERE WAS TOO MUCH GOING ON DURING WINTER BREAK...?

This is a work of fiction. It has no relation to any real people or organizations.

篠崎さん気をオタしかに！

DON'T BECOME AN OTAKU, SHINOZAKI!

HIKAWA SHOU

CHAPTER 36: SAKURADAI NATSUKI AND THE SHADOW GAME

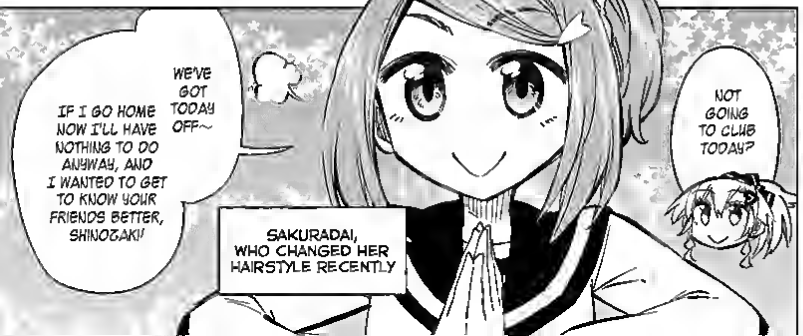
HMMMM
OHH, YOU ENDED UP WINNING THAT FRIDGE, HUH?
THAT'S AWESOME EVEN ON TWEETER I'VE ONLY SEEN COMPLAINTS ABOUT LOSING
NUFUFUFU~ MAYBE IT'S THE BLESSING OF THE GOD OF WASHINOMIYA SHRINE!
THE JACK OF SPADES IS LORD ATOBEE
HUH? SHOULDN'T LORD ATOBEE BE THE KING?
I WONDER WHAT KIND OF DESIGNS THEY'LL HAVE~
I DIDN'T GET ANY BLESSINGS, EVEN THOUGH I GAVE THAT GOD 500 YEN!
THE QUEEN AND KING ARE ALSO LORD ATOBEE
HUH?

3

ALL THE FACE CARDS ARE LORD ATOBEE!!
WAIT, AREN'T CLUBS, DIAMONDS AND HEARTS ALSO ALL LORD ATOBEE?
THEN THEY'RE NOT PRINCE OF THE BAKUMATSU PLAYING CARDS, THEY'RE LORD ATOBEE PLAYING CARDS, RIGHT?
AND I MEAN, EVEN WITH LORD ATOBEE BEING LORD ATOBEE AND ALL...
4
AND HASN'T THE QUEEN OF HEARTS TURNED INTO A MAGICAL GIRL!? WHAT DOES THIS HAVE TO DO WITH THE BAKUMATSU!?
Pick one job and stick with it!
OH, I SEE; IT'S THUNDER.
WHY IS HE NAKED ON THIS CARD? I MEAN, HE'S GOT PRETTY LEGS, BUT SERIOUSLY!
I AM THE KING!
RATHER THAN A KING, DIAMONDS HAS THE EMPEROR WITH NEW CLOTHES!!

K
AND WAIT, HE STARTED PLAYING TENNIS...!?
BE AWED BY THE SIGHT OF MY CURVEBALL!
COME ON, THERE'S NO WAY THAT LORD ATOBEE WOULD EVER PLAY TENNIS!
EHH, YOU DON'T THINK SO?
SOMEHOW, I THINK IT SUITS HIM SO WELL THAT THEY PROBABLY SHOULDN'T TAKE IT ANY FURTHER

HEEY, ARE YOU GUYS PLAYING CARDS?
DON'T SEE THAT OFTEN. COME ON, LEMME ME PLAY TOO~
SAKURADAI


NOT GOING TO CLUB TODAY?
WE'VE GOT TODAY OFF~
IF I GO HOME NOW I'LL HAVE NOTHING TO DO ANYWAY, AND I WANTED TO GET TO KNOW YOUR FRIENDS BETTER, SHINOZAKI!
SAKURADAI, WHO CHANGED HER HAIRSTYLE RECENTLY

OKAY, SO WHAT SHOULD WE PLAY?
WHAT ABOUT BLACK-JACK?
I DON'T REALLY KNOW THE RULES.
HOW 'BOUT SEVENS?
WE'D WANT A BIGGER SURFACE FOR THAT.

ISN'T SOMETHING SIMPLE LIKE OLD MAID FINE?
OKAAY.

ALRIGHT, THEN WE'LL START WITH KAEDE SINCE SHE'S GOT THE MOST LEFTOVER CARDS.
x5
x5
x5
x6

How do you what I...
SHE... SHE'S SHAKING SO HARD YOU ALMOST WONDER IF IT'S DELIBERATE...

O-OKAY, I'M GONNA TAKE ONE.
HOPEFULLY I DON'T GRAB THE JOKER RIGHT...

THE SHADOW GAME BEGINS!
SHADOW!?
STOP MAKING REFERENCES NOBODY ELSE WILL GET.

MAYBE THIS ONE?
あわわわ
ぱあっ
OR THIS ONE?
NOT GOOD; I'M STARTING TO GET HOOKED ON WATCHING HER EXPRESSION CHANGE...
Eenie
Meenie
Miney
HURRY IT UP... JUST HOW LONG YOU GONNA TAKE FOR YOUR FIRST CARD?

AH, I ENDED UP GRABBING THE JOKER...
Her smile is too dazzling!
AND THAT'S ONE HORRIBLE PICTURE ON THE JOKER!

7

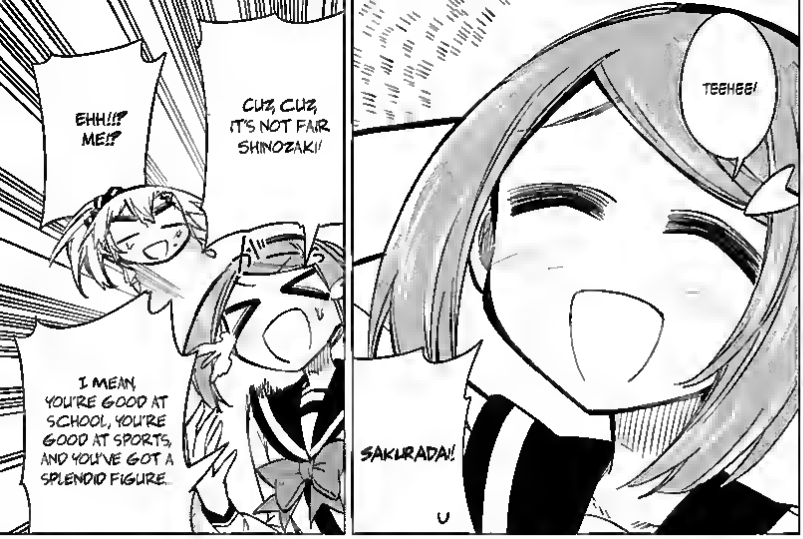
M-MICCHY, TAKE IT FROM ME ALREADY! I DON'T WANT TO HANG ON TO SUCH A SINISTER CARD!
GUYS, THIS ISN'T GOING TO BE MUCH OF A MATCH. COULD YOU MAYBE START WORKING ON YOUR POKER FACES?
Like this?
I wonder...

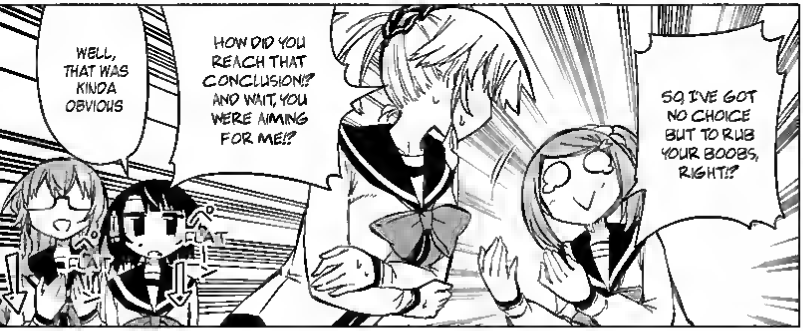
7

THAT'S RIGHT! PLAYING OLD MAID'S NO FUN ON ITS OWN, SO WHY NOT ADD A PENALTY GAME?
むむむむ
PENALTY GAME?
YOU MEAN LIKE "GO AND BUY JUICE," OR "SPIN AROUND THREE TIMES AND BARK?"
SOUNDS GOOD! CUZ I'M NOT GONNA BE THE ONE LOSING!
ALRIGHT, SO WHY DON'T WE ALL WRITE SOME DOWN AND THEN DRAW FOR THEM?
Cut up loose leaf paper
Write something
End your sentences with "purr" purr
Fold them
SO OUR FIRST PENALTY GAME WILL BE...

8

...WHO, MIGHT I ASK, WAS THE ONE THAT WROTE THIS PENALTY GAME?
rubs the boobs
Winner rubs the boobs of the loser.


EHH!!? ME!?
CUZ, CUZ, IT'S NOT FAIR SHINOZAKI!
I MEAN, YOU'RE GOOD AT SCHOOL, YOU'RE GOOD AT SPORTS, AND YOU'VE GOT A SPLENDID FIGURE...
TEEHEE!
SAKURADA!

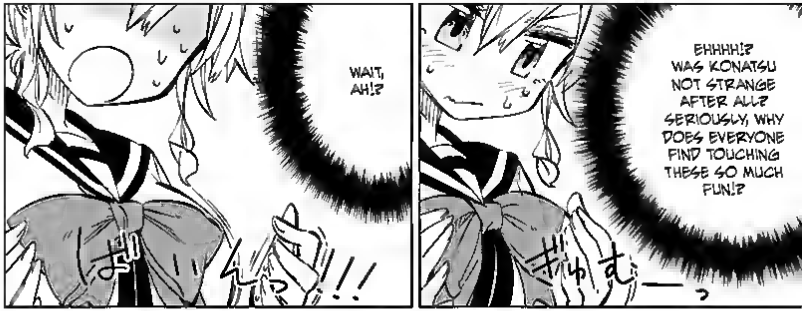

WELL, THAT WAS KINDA OBVIOUS
HOW DID YOU REACH THAT CONCLUSION!? AND WAIT, YOU WERE AIMING FOR ME!?
SO, I'VE GOT NO CHOICE BUT TO RUB YOUR BOOBS, RIGHT!?

ALRIGHT, NEXT IS

BOOBS

JEEZ, I'M NOT GOING TO ACKNOWLEDGE A PENALTY GAME LIKE THAT!
AHH!?
Konatsu isn't here, so I let my guard down

I want
boobs too!!
PLEASE WAIT A MOMENT, AKINA!
AT ALL-GIRLS' SCHOOLS, BOOB TOUCHING IS SOMETHING THAT EVERYONE DOES!
YOUR TRUE MOTIVE IS SHOWING ON YOUR FACE!
TEEHEEHEE!
YOU TOO, KAEDE!?


WAIT, AH!?
EHHHH!? WAS KONATSU NOT STRANGE AFTER ALL? SERIOUSLY, WHY DOES EVERYONE FIND TOUCHING THESE SO MUCH FUN!?

I'VE JUST BEEN THINKING ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS IF I LOSE...

GYAAAAA, NO WAY NO WAY, I'M NOT...
We've got no choice since it's a penalty game
It's alright, Akina It's a penalty game after all
BUT IF I GET FIRST, THEN KAEDE...

WHAT IS NORMAL?
NORMAL... NORMAL...
B-BUT, KAEDE SAID SOMETHING ABOUT BOOB TOUCHING BEING NORMAL.
I...

わっ!!
YOU'RE REPEATING YOURSELF.
BECAUSE I DREW IT, I'VE GOT NO CHOICE, RIGHT!?
I GUESS I'VE GOT NO CHOICE, RIGHT!? IT'S WHAT I DREW, SO I'VE GOT NO CHOICE, RIGHT!?
AKINA IS CONFUSED

LET THE GAMES BEGIN!!
Normal
Normal
I've got no choice!

WHY...!?
2nd
1st
CONSOLATION GAME!
AND IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE, THINGS ARE LIKE THIS!!
THE LOSER WILL HAVE THEIR BREASTS RUBBED BY SAKURADAI

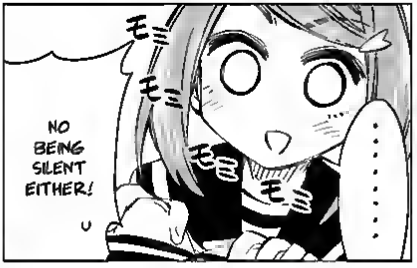
NOT ONLY THAT, BUT IF THIS KEEPS UP THEN KAEDE'S BOOBS WILL BE RUBBED BY SAKURADAI...
It's alright, leave everything to me.
Okay
DAMN! EVEN THOUGH IF I'D WON, I'D HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO TOUCH KAEDE'S BOOBS...
I MEAN NO!
It's normal
IN THAT CASE, I WILL...!!
THAT... THAT CAN'T HAPPEN...!!
13
キラーン
AH—
WHY ARE YOU DOING A VICTORY POSE AFTER LOSING?
YESS, I LOST!
Kaede's WIN
YAAY, I WOON!
13

I'M NOT SOME PUMPKIN THAT WOULD START COMPLAINING ABOUT THE OUTCOME OF A MATCH THAT I HAD ALREADY AGREED TO!
I-I GET IT. I'M A WOMAN TOO!
I PROTECTED KAEDE'S BOOBS... AND SO I HAVE NO REGRETS!
ふんす!
A-ALRIGHT, THEN IF YOU DON'T MIND...
YOU KNOW, IT'S ACTUALLY KINDA EMBARRASSING.
あはは
DON'T YOU THINK I'M THE ONE WHO'S THE MOST EMBARRASSED HERE!?

ぱあ
OHH... TH-THIS IS...!!
MM
ALRIGHT, THEN I'M GONNA START..

モミ モミ
COULD YOU NOT NARRATE AS YOU RUB!?
SOFTLY CLINGING TO MY HANDS, AND YET TENDER TO THE TOUCH
THE HEAT I CAN FEEL SPREADING THROUGH MY PALMS... THERE'S DEFINITELY SOMETHING HERE

Rub
Rub
Rub
Rub
Rub
Rub
Rub
Rub
AND JUST HOW LONG ARE YOU GONNA KEEP GOING!?


モミ
モミ
モミ
NO BEING SILENT EITHER!
U
.....

I'm jealous...
WELL THANKS FOR THAT!
Nice and warm...
It was amazing

THE NEXT PENALTY GAME IS...
DAMNIT, NEXT ONE, NEXT ONE! YOU BETTER WATCH OUT DURING THE NEXT MATCH, OKAY!?

GRRRRR... IF IT WAS KONATSU I COULD AT LEAST PUNCH HER, BUT I'VE GOT NO WAY OF HANDLING SAKURADA!... TO THINK THAT THERE WAS A TRAP LIKE THIS!

Pocky game
and 4th place

IT WAS KAEDE!!?
TEEHEE!
NONO, IM INNOCENT!
SOMETHING LIKE THAT AGAIN!? SAKURADA!!!

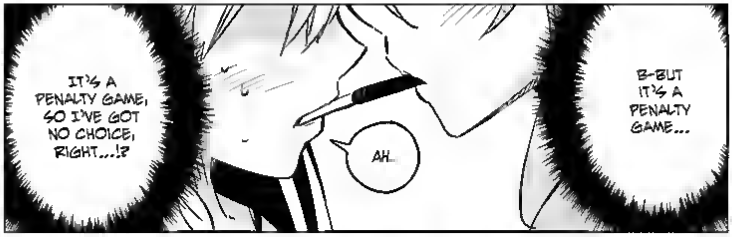
ゴゴゴゴゴゴゴゴ
THERE'S NO WAY I WILL LOSE TWICE IN A ROW...
BUT THANKS TO THAT LAST ONE, MY BODY'S ALL WARMED UP AND I'M PEAK CONDITION...

DAMN... BUT LIKE THIS, I BETTER THINK OF HALF OF THOSE SLIPS AS BEING LANDMINES, HUH...

K♠
1ST
2ND
3RD
LAST
HOW ABOUT THAT!!
HMHMM, THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I GO ALL OUT
I can't believe it!
OKAY, SO NOW SHINOZAKI AND SASAMURA PLAY THE POCKY GAME!
EH?

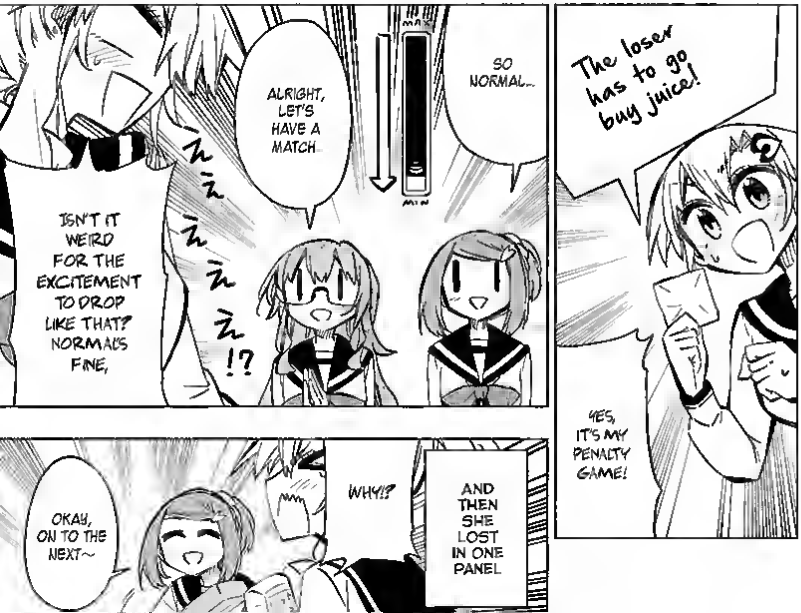
Pocky game
Winner and 4th place
READ CLOSELY, IT SAYS "FIRST AND LAST."
EHHHHHH!?
THE POCKY GAME WITH KAEDE!?
OKAY, WE GOING~?
I CAN'T! I CAN'T DO THIS...!!

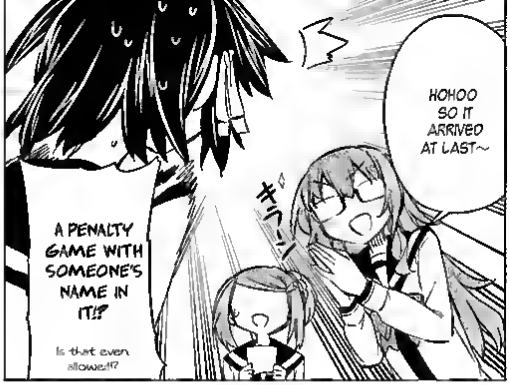
I-I CAN'T, KAEDE. WE'RE BOTH GIRLS, AND WE'RE UNDERAGE...
THIS IS SOMETHING WE SHOULD DO WHEN WE'RE ADULTS...
ポリポリ
ポリポリポリポリ


B-BUT IT'S A PENALTY GAME...
AH...
IT'S A PENALTY GAME, SO I'VE GOT NO CHOICE, RIGHT...!?

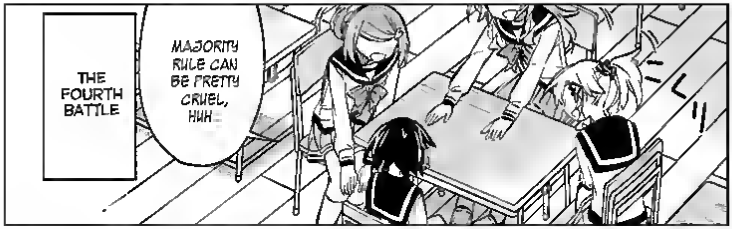
IN THAT CASE, KAEDE AND I...
Mina, your lips...
They're sweeter than pocky!
あ
KAEDE AND I...

KAEDE AND I...
ASHHHHH
YES! I DEFEATED THE NUMBER ONE~
AHH, SHINOZAKI'S GONE ALL PALE!?
WAS THAT HOW THIS GAME WAS SUPPOSED TO GO?
THE THIRD BATTLE
P-PLEASE BE A NORMAL PENALTY GAME THIS TIME...
IF IT'S NOT, MY LIFE IS GONNA HIT 0!


SO NORMAL...
ALRIGHT, LET'S HAVE A MATCH
ISN'T IT WEIRD FOR THE EXCITEMENT TO DROP LIKE THAT? NORMAL'S FINE,
The loser has to go buy juice!
YES, IT'S MY PENALTY GAME!
AND THEN SHE LOST IN ONE PANEL
WHY!?
OKAY, ON TO THE NEXT~

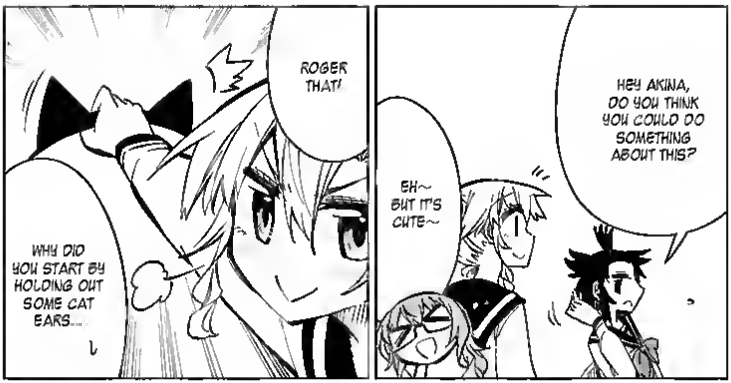

HOHOO SO IT ARRIVED AT LAST~
キラーン
A PENALTY GAME WITH SOMEONE'S NAME IN IT!?
Is that even allowed!?

The loser has to make Micchy look cute.

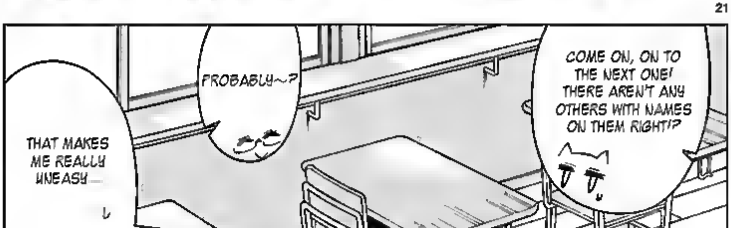

THE FOURTH BATTLE
MAJORITY RULE CAN BE PRETTY CRUEL, HUH...

THE PREDICTABLE CONCLUSION
AND DONE!!

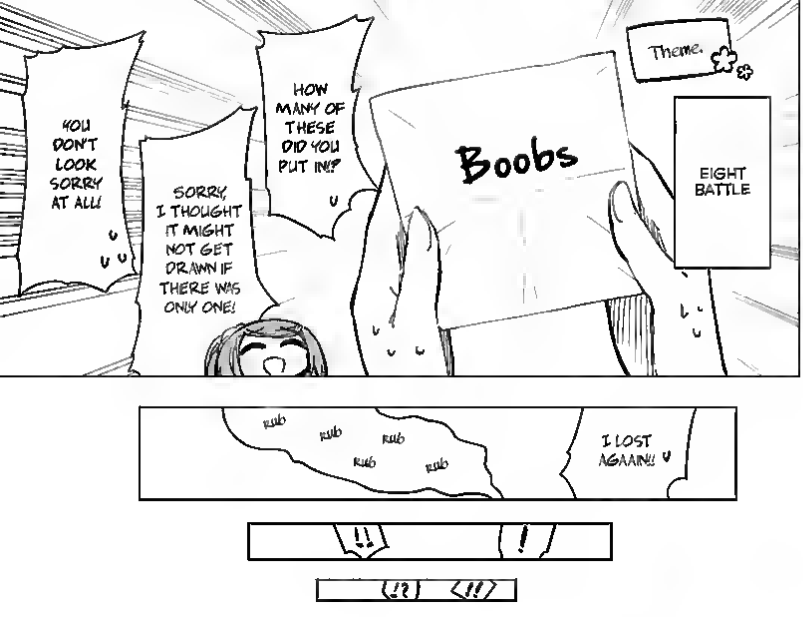
OKAY, LET'S BEGIN!
AND THE PERSON I LEAST WANTED IS THE ONE WHO LOST TOO!
LAST
ERO
2ND
1ST

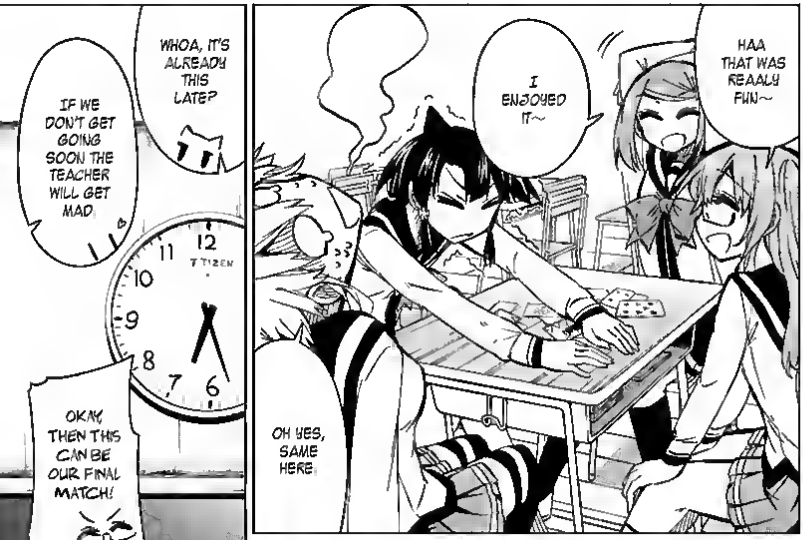

ROGER THAT!
WHY DID YOU START BY HOLDING OUT SOME CAT EARS...
HEY AKINA, DO YOU THINK YOU COULD DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS?
EH~ BUT IT'S CUTE~

It's cute!!
カワイイ!!
WELL, I GUESS BEGGARS CAN'T BE CHOOSERS


COME ON, ON TO THE NEXT ONE! THERE AREN'T ANY OTHERS WITH NAMES ON THEM RIGHT!?
PROBABLY~?
THAT MAKES ME REALLY UNEASY...

FIFTH BATTLE
Theme: Leopardess pose
WHY ARE YOU GETTING ANGRY AT ME!!?
WHY DIDN'T YOU LOSE, SHINOZAKI!!?
SIXTH BATTLE
Theme: PrePure vocal solo
Slime, slime
SAKURAI'S GONNA MISUNDERSTAND AGAIN!
PrePuure!
PrePuure!
SEVENTH BATTLE
Theme: Touch the school gate
Sure thing
Let's do our best
AGAIN WITH THAT LACK OF EXCITEMENT!


Theme.
Boobs
EIGHT BATTLE
HOW MANY OF THESE DID YOU PUT IN!?
SORRY, I THOUGHT IT MIGHT NOT GET DRAWN IF THERE WAS ONLY ONE!
YOU DON'T LOOK SORRY AT ALL!
rub rub rub rub rub
I LOST AGAAIN!
!!
!
!?
!!

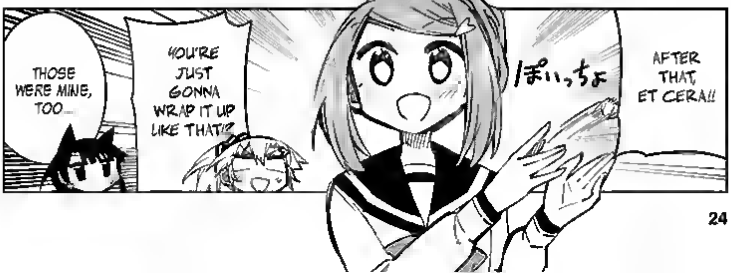

WHOA, IT'S ALREADY THIS LATE?
IF WE DON'T GET GOING SOON THE TEACHER WILL GET MAD.
OKAY, THEN THIS CAN BE OUR FINAL MATCH!
I ENJOYED IT~
HAA THAT WAS REAALY FUN~
OH YES, SAME HERE.

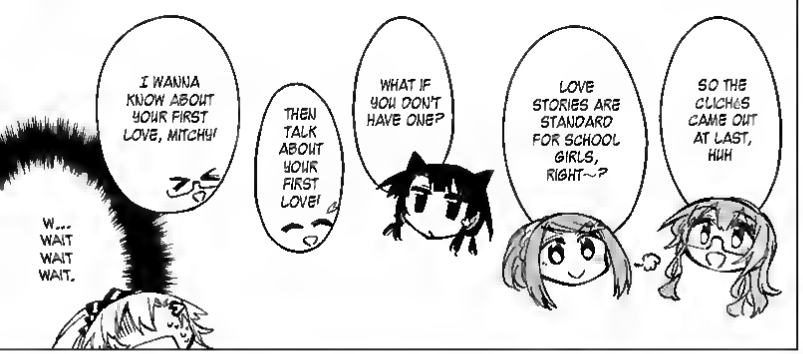
ALRIGHT, SO FOR THE FINAL PENALTY GAME WE'LL USE ALL FOUR OF THE LEFTOVERS
BUT, WELL, IF WE FINISH HERE, I GUESS I'LL BE ABLE TO LOOK BACK ON IT AS SOMETHING ENJOYA—

WE'RE FINALLY FINISHING... THIS HAS BEEN THE WORST.
MICCHY'S TOO STRONG, SO SHE NEVER LOSES, AND THERE'S NOTHING BUT WEIRD PENALTY GAMES.

NEXT, REVEAL SOMETHING YOU'VE KEPT HIDDEN FROM YOUR FRIENDS!
EHHHHHH!?

FIRST, TELL US WHO YOU LIKE!
EH?


THOSE WERE MINE, TOO—
YOU'RE JUST GONNA WRAP IT UP LIKE THAT!?
ぽいっちょ
AFTER THAT, ET CERA!!


I WANNA KNOW ABOUT YOUR FIRST LOVE, MITCHY!
W... WAIT WAIT WAIT.
THEN TALK ABOUT YOUR FIRST LOVE!
WHAT IF YOU DON'T HAVE ONE?
LOVE STORIES ARE STANDARD FOR SCHOOL GIRLS, RIGHT~?
SO THE CLICHÉS CAME OUT AT LAST, HUH

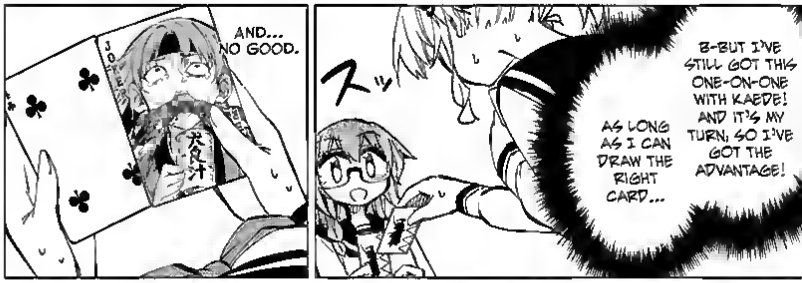
The truth is that I'm not an otaku!
SOME-THING YOU'VE KEPT SECRET...
And so Kaede, I can't..
No, it's just as a friend, just as a friend!
THE PERSON YOU LIKE...

LET'S GOOO!
OKAAY, THE LAST GAME!
THOSE ARE BOTH THE LARGEST CLASS OF LANDMINE!!

THIS IS THE GAME I REALLY CAN'T AFFORD TO LOSE...
N-NOT GOOD, NOT GOOD, NOT GOOD! THIS MAKES THE PENALTY GAMES UP UNTIL NOW LOOK DOWNRIGHT CUTE!

WAIT, WHYYYY!!?
And we're back to this one-on-one battle!
I GUESS I CAN TELL YOU SINCE THIS IS THE END AKINA, YOU HAVE THE HABIT OF PUTTING THE JOKER AT THE END.
YOU ALWAYS ORDER YOUR CARDS NEATLY.

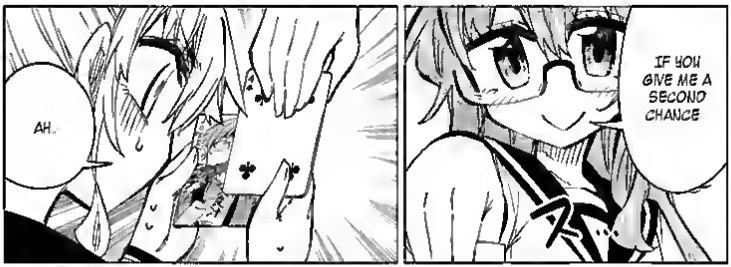
EHH!? DOES SHE REALLY? I DIDN'T NOTICE..
TELL ME WHEN YOU NOTICE!!
SORRY, BUT THE PENALTY GAMES WERE JUST SO TERRIBLE..
TEEHEEHEE~!
SAKURADA!!

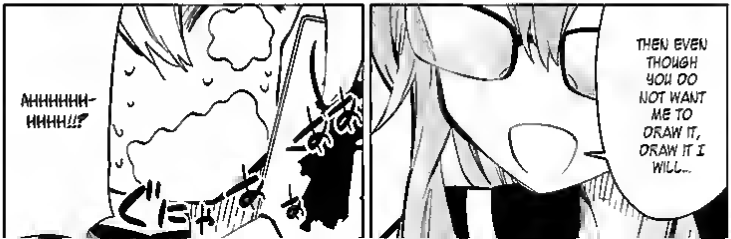

B-BUT I'VE STILL GOT THIS ONE-ON-ONE WITH KAEDE! AND IT'S MY TURN, SO I'VE GOT THE ADVANTAGE!
AS LONG AS I CAN DRAW THE RIGHT CARD...
スッ
AND... NO GOOD.
JOKER
犬の汁

PLEASE, KAEDE, DON'T DRAW IT!
SAFE!

4
JOKER
BWA
GYAAAAA
THIS TIME!

ぎわ…
ぎわ…
EHH!?
べしっ
I TOLD YOU TO STOP WITH THE REFERENCES NOBODY WILL ELSE WILL GET.
BWAHAHA… AKINA, WHEN PLAYING AGAINST A KING LIKE MYSELF, YOU CANNOT ALLOW ME TO DRAW A SECOND TIME…


AH…
IF YOU GIVE ME A SECOND CHANCE


AHHHHHH-HHHH!!?
ぐにゃあ
THEN EVEN THOUGH YOU DO NOT WANT ME TO DRAW IT, DRAW IT I WILL…

AH!
OKAY, THAT'S ENOUGH. SORRY, I KNOW THAT YOU'RE HAVING FUN~
BUT WE'RE ALREADY WELL PAST THE TIME YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO LEAVE SCHOOL, RIGHT~?
BAD GIRLS WHO DON'T GO HOME AND MAKE MORE WORK FOR THE TEACHERS.
GETS PUNISHED, YOU KNOW~?
なでなで
U... YES MA'AM!
I'M SAAAAAAVED!!
28
THE NEXT DAY

I WAS EVEN SEEING THAT JOKER IN MY DREAMS. COME ON!
HAA SERIOUSLY, THOUGH, YESTERDAY WAS THE WORST...

WHAT'RE YA TALKIN' ABOUT? NO WAY
HELLO~
THE PENALTY GAME IS BOOBS!
SUP AKINA! LET'S PLAY SOME CARDS!
I'M DONE WITH PLAYING CARDS...
All my resentment from yesterday!!
An attack three times stronger than normal--!!

Konatsu really is the greatest friend!
TO BE CONTINUED

SO CYFER HAS INFORMED ME THAT THERE IS A REFERENCE WE'VE BEEN MISSING FOR AGES.

LORD ATOBEE IS A REFERENCE TO THE "PRINCE OF TENNIS" CHARACTER "KEIGO ATOBE." HENCE WHY THE JOKE ABOUT HOW WEIRDLY FITTING FOR HIM TO PLAY TENNIS. ALL OF THE VARIOUS CARD IMAGES ARE PRINCE OF TENNIS REFERENCES.

SPEAKING OF ANIME REFERENCES...

KAEDE'S REFERENCES NO ONE ELSE WILL GET #1: THIS ONE IS ACTUALLY PRETTY OBVIOUS. THE "SHADOW GAMES" ARE A REFERENCE TO YU-GI-OH.

KAEDE'S REFERENCES NO ONE ELSE WILL GET #2: THIS ONE IS OBSCURE. KAEDE'S LINE IS A QUOTE FROM ONE OF THE VILLAINS IN KAIJI, A GAMBLING ANIME.

HTTP://COMETSCANS.WORDPRESS.COM/

COMET SCANS

TRANSLATION: Cyfer

EDITING/QC: ChiPsiUp

TYPESETTING: Nekopyon

REDRAWING: Capskowski

COVER: Potsticker